

EARLY HEAD START ANNUAL REPORT

*Serving eligible families in Middletown, Cromwell,
Portland, Old Saybrook, Clinton & Westbrook*

FISCAL YEAR
2015

JANUARY –
DECEMBER
2015



aces
area cooperative educational services

ACES MIDDLESEX COUNTY EARLY HEAD START PARTNERSHIP
300 WASHINGTON STREET
MIDDLETOWN, CT 06457

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WHO WE ARE



OUR MISSION

To ensure that the cornerstones of child development, family development, staff development, and community building are in place for Middlesex County's income eligible expectant families or families with infants and toddlers through age three.

OUR PURPOSE

To utilize existing family and child services, and to expand their capacity to provide the comprehensive array of family and child supports unique to the Head Start experience.

OUR GOAL

The goal of this program is to promote the development of 60 infants/toddlers and pregnant women, and enable parents to fulfill their roles as parents and move toward self-sufficiency.

EARLY HEAD START POLICY COUNCIL

Kamika Vereen, *Policy Council Chairperson*
Skye Paisley, *Policy Council Vice-Chairperson*

ACES GOVERNING BOARD

Norman Hicks, *Chair*
Vincent Loffredo, *Policy Council Representative*



The mission of ACES, a leader and innovator in education, is to empower our students, member districts, and other clients to meet educational and life challenges in the changing global environment by providing collaborative, customized, cost effective solutions to meet identified needs of our educational community.

FISCAL YEAR 2016 EXPENDITURES

The EHS budget is separated into 3 categories:

1. **OPERATIONS**, which are costs related to the day-to-day management of the program, including staff salaries and costs to support services to families.
2. **TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**, which are costs related to the training of EHS staff.
3. **NON-FEDERAL SHARE**, which are in-kind donations or services received from third parties or contributed by the agency during the program period. Total must equal 25% of federal award.

This report reflects funded enrollment, funding sources and activities for ACES Middlesex County Early Head Start Partnership for the fiscal year January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 in accordance with Head Start Act 644(a)(2). The EHS program was reviewed as part of the ACES yearly audit by Buckley, Frame, Boudreau & Co. There were no findings specific to the EHS program. Audit report issued June 30, 2015.

Total Federal Share: \$862,335

Total Non-Federal Share (In-Kind Contributions): \$215,584

LINE ITEM OPERATIONS

Salaries	\$253,839
Benefits	\$60,466
Travel-Staff Dev/Conferences	\$3,359
Supplies-Office	\$5,638
Supplies-Parent Activities	\$1,933
Supplies-Program	\$7,043
Supplies-Socialization	\$1,604
Contractual-Child Dev Aides	\$390
Contractual-Child Services	\$5,449
Contractual-Ed Manager	\$28,560
Contractual-HV Overtime	\$12,010
Contractual-Middlesex Hospital	\$341,561
Other-Communications	\$5,503
Other-Copying	\$2,909
Other-Dues/Fees	\$7,765
Other-Facility Usage	\$32,630
Other-Local Travel	\$5,062
Other-Parent Activities	\$1,790
Other-Postage	\$355
Other-Technology	\$3,232
Equipment	\$8,980
TOTAL OPERATIONS	\$790,077

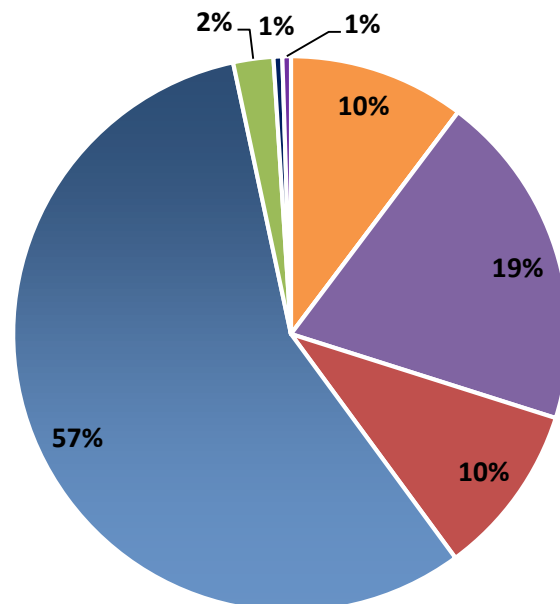
TRAINING/TA

Training-Contractual	\$13,750
Training-Staff Development	\$3,998
Training-Supplies	\$1,195
TOTAL TRAINING/TA	\$18,944

TOTAL INDIRECT TO ACES **\$53,314**
TOTAL GRANT **\$862,335**

NON-FEDERAL SHARE

- SALARIES/BENEFITS - ACES STAFF
- MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL FACILITY/OFFICE SPACE
- VENDORS
- ACES PDSI FACILITY/OFFICE SPACE
- CITY OF MIDDLETOWN/MOODY SCHOOL
- VOLUNTEERS-PARENT/FORMER PARENT
- VOLUNTEERS-COMMUNITY



WHO WE SERVED

All demographic data based upon 2015 Program Information Report (PIR) unless otherwise noted.

PROGRAM OPTIONS:

- 60 Home Visiting slots available:
 - Children ages 0-3 years: 54
 - Expectant Mothers: 6

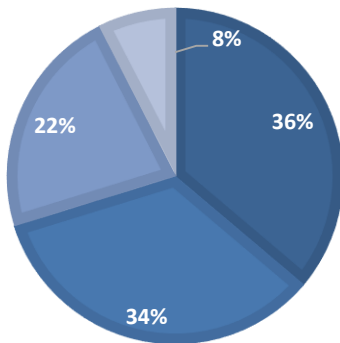
2015 SERVICE NUMBERS:

- 94 total children
- 93 total families
- 9 total expectant mothers

AVERAGE REPORTED MONTHLY ENROLLMENT: 100%

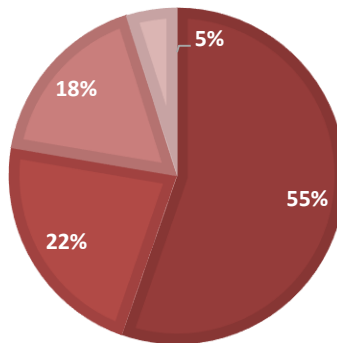
CHILD AGES

- Under 1 year
- 1 year old
- 2 years old
- 3 years old



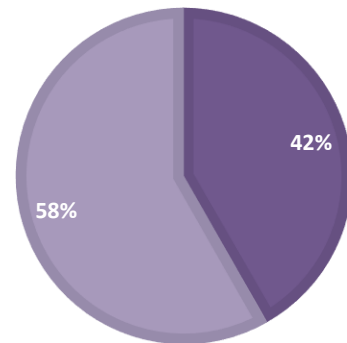
ELIGIBILITY

- Income eligible
- Public Assistance
- Homeless
- Over income



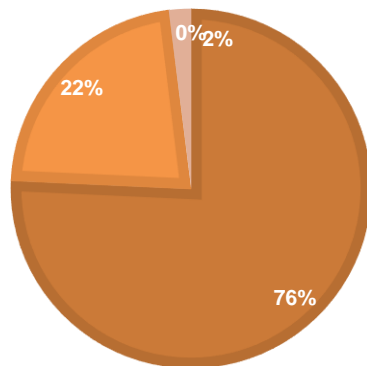
ETHNICITY

- Hispanic or Latino origin
- Non-Hispanic or Non-Latino origin



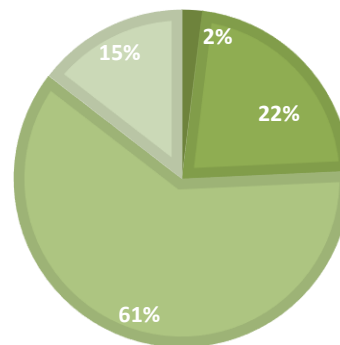
LANGUAGE

- English
- Spanish
- East Asian Languages



RACE

- Asian
- White
- Black/African American
- Biracial/Multi-racial



CHILD HEALTH OUTCOMES

EHS is not interested only in the children enrolled in the program, but in the entire family. We ensure that families have quality information on good health habits and offer workshops and in-service training. Our staff assists families in obtaining the most up to date physicals and vaccinations, and link families to dental services in the community.

94%

of enrolled children were **up-to-date** on a schedule of age appropriate **preventive and primary health care, and oral health care**, according to the CT Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) schedule for well child care.

PREPARING CHILDREN FOR KINDERGARTEN

ACES Middlesex County Early Head Start Partnership developed nine school readiness goals for the 2014-2015 program year to align with the five central domains of the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework (2015):

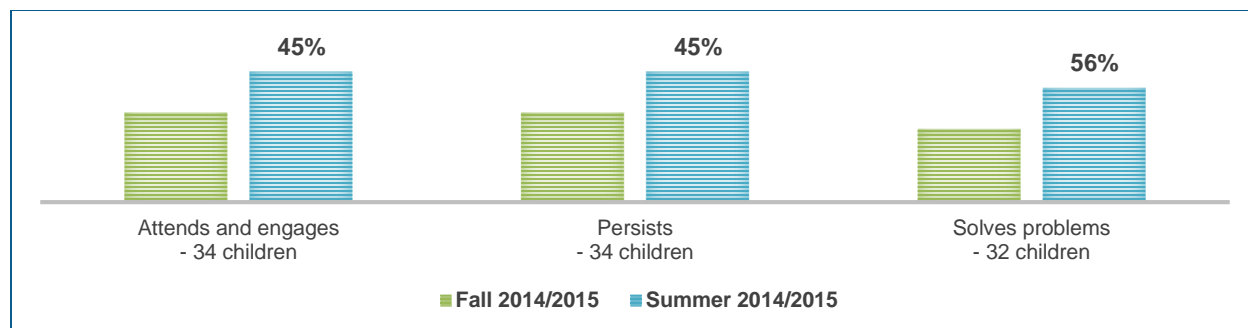
- Approaches to Learning
- Social and Emotional Development
- Language and Literacy
- Cognition
- Perceptual, Motor, and Physical Development

Observation data was collected by home visitors in the home and during socialization experiences, according to the objectives in the Teaching Strategies GOLD Assessment Tool (TS GOLD) for infants and toddlers that align with the School Readiness Goals.

The growth data in this report reflects a subset of 34 children with sufficient data across all four program checkpoints in the 2014-2015 program year (September 2014-August 2015). Children displayed overall growth in all areas and age ranges. The percent of growth for each dimension is listed along with the number of children included in each. Larger percentages generally reflect a smaller number of children assessed for that indicator.

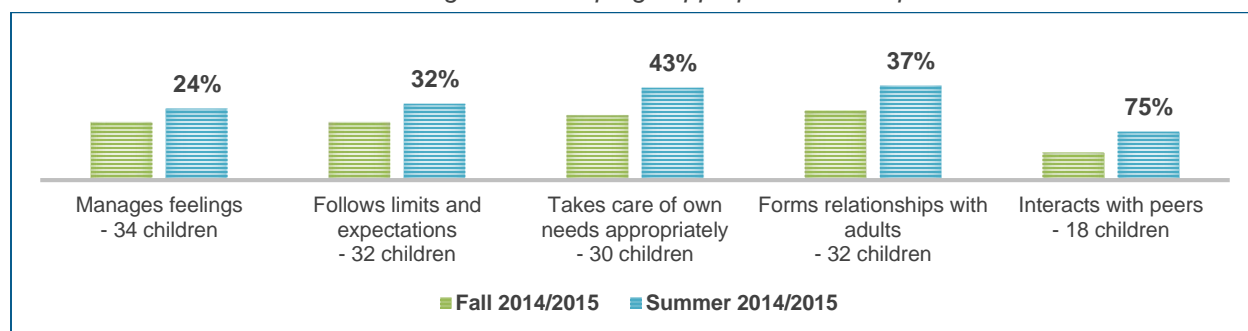
APPROACHES TO LEARNING: GROWTH

- *Our infants and toddlers will begin to demonstrate interest, curiosity, persistence and eagerness in exploring the world around them.*



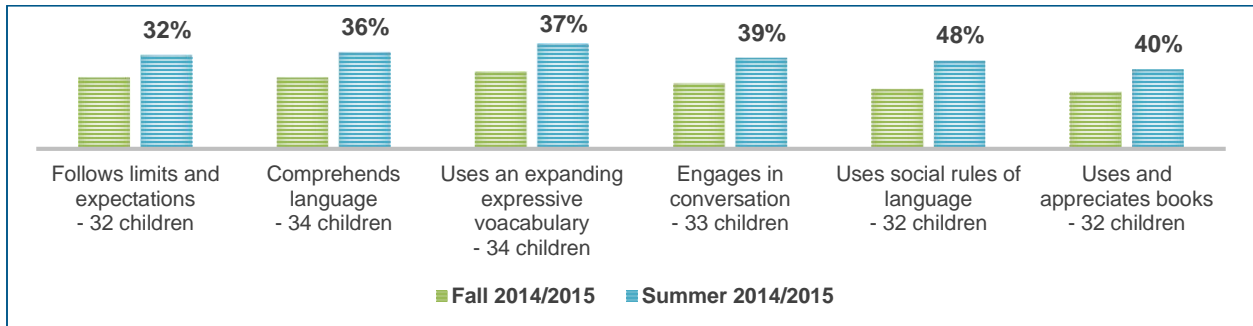
SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT: GROWTH

- *Our infants and toddlers will begin to develop the ability to express and manage emotions in appropriate ways.*
- *Our infants and toddlers will begin to develop and engage in positive relationships and interactions with adults and peers.*
- *Our infants and toddlers will begin to develop age appropriate self-help skills.*



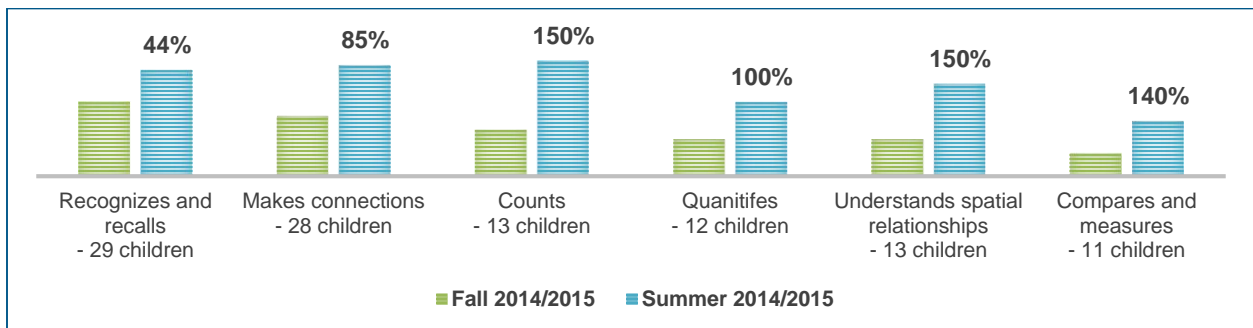
LANGUAGE & LITERACY DEVELOPMENT: GROWTH

- *Our infants and toddlers will begin to demonstrate receptive and expressive language skills and communication strategies in their home language(s).*
- *Our infants and toddlers will begin to learn and demonstrate how print works, and engage with stories and books.*



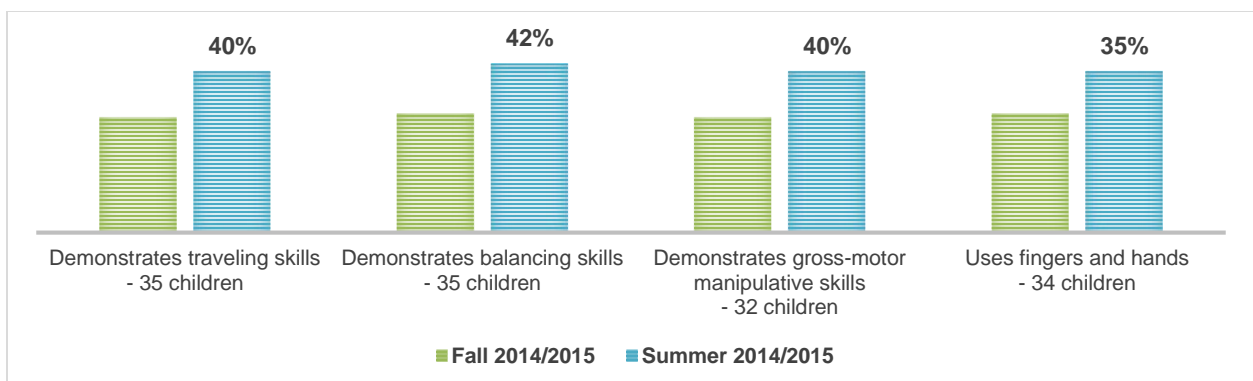
COGNITION: GROWTH

- *Our infants and toddlers will learn and begin to use math concepts during daily routines and experiences. (1 year and up)*
- *Our infants and toddlers will begin to use all of their senses to process and explore their environment and demonstrate the ability to remember and connect new and known experiences in their environment.*



PERCEPTUAL, MOTOR, AND PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT: GROWTH

- *Our infants and toddlers will begin to develop and strengthen control over large and small muscles.*



PARENT INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

POLICY COUNCIL

- Members were elected from Early Head Start parents, as well as ACES Governing Board and community representatives
- Met regularly, approved hiring, and approved grant proposals
- Volunteer sub-committees met in the areas of Personnel and Self-Assessment
- Head Start Orientation and Governance training was provided to all interested parents and community members

PARENT COMMITTEE ALLIANCE

- Middletown, CT
 - Held 3 meetings at Russell Library
 - Held 1 meeting at South Congregational Church
 - Average attendance: 7 parents
 - 18 parents met during the Family Fun Day event in Middletown
- Old Saybrook, CT
 - Held 1 meeting at Grace Episcopal Church
 - Average attendance: 4 parents

Topics Addressed:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ➤ Parent Observations | ➤ Menu development for playgroups |
| ➤ Policy Council updates | ➤ Community events |
| ➤ Program updates | ➤ Parent suggestions |

PARENT EDUCATION

Topics included: Health and Wellness, Safety in the home and outdoors, Infant Massage, Promoting language acquisition, Family Goal setting, Child Development, Importance of music and movement, Dental Health, Healthy Nutrition, Reading to Children and reading children's cues.

GROW TRUCK

Through an agreement with the CT Food Bank, ACES Early Head Start families were provided nutritional education and free groceries. Part of the GROW Up with Good Nutrition Initiative, the GROW (Grocery On Wheels) Truck visited the ACES Middletown Community Education Center twice a month in fall 2015. The truck is stocked with fresh fruits and vegetables, low-fat dairy products, meat, fish and other healthy foods like brown rice and whole-grain products. Before boarding the GROW truck, families participate in short workshops that teach them about making healthy and great tasting food choices on a budget.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

EHS continued its partnership with Middlesex Hospital, Middletown United Fathers, & UCONN SNAP Ed. to provide families the opportunity to explore the Long Meadow Community Garden where they can learn about the basics of gardening and healthy eating. During the harvest season, families assisted with harvesting, preparing and sampling produce-fresh from the fields!

HEALTH AND SAFETY FAIR, MAY 2014

Families were provided various opportunities to learn and plan for safety as a pedestrian and at home, including how to handle and prepare safely for young children and learning about the essentials of a first aid kit.

INFANT MASSAGE, SEPTEMBER 2015

Many parents find that a few short minutes of infant massage help their baby sleep better, feel more comfortable in their bodies, digest better and just feel loved through gentle touch.

For parents, it's a calm break in a busy day, a chance to connect and really get to know their new little one—what they like, when they've had enough. The techniques are easily learned.

ACES MIDDLETOWN COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTER

In October 2015, ACES EHS office staff moved to a new location at 300 Washington Street in Middletown, CT. The space is being leased through new community partner, Faith Lutheran Church.

In addition to expanded office space, the ACES Middletown Community Education Center will become a site for EHS socializations, and provide meeting space for Policy Council, parent training and community programs involving EHS families.

FAMILY FUN DAY

- The annual event was held August 18, 2014 in Middletown and August 26, 2014 in Old Saybrook.
- Families engaged in games and movement activities, as well as health and safety presentations

SOCIALIZATION PLAYGROUPS

The purpose of our socialization playgroups for infants and toddlers is to support the child's development by strengthening the parent/child relationship. Socialization playgroups are designed to reinforce many of the activities and goals that are developed by the family and home visitor during their home visits. Parents are very hands-on during socialization playgroups.

In 2015, socialization playgroups were held regularly at the Russell Library and Family Wellness Center in Middletown, and at Grace Episcopal Church in Old Saybrook for shoreline area families.

Socialization Site	# Playgroups	Average # Parents	Average # Children
Russell Library	8	11	8
Family Wellness Center	6	5	5
Grace Episcopal Church	15	6	7

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

City of Middletown	Middletown Adult Education
Community Health Center, Inc.	Middlesex Hospital
CT Birth to Three	Middletown School Readiness Council
CT Dental Health Partnership	Middlesex United Way
CT Dept. of Children and Families	Opportunity Knocks Collaborative
Hallie House	Russell Library
Injury Free Kids	Shoreline Soup Kitchens and Pantries
LEARN Young Children and Families	St. Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen
Middlesex Central CT Chapter of the American	The Community Renewal Team
Red Cross	The South Congregational Church, U.C.C.
	Women, Infants & Children (WIC)

BIRTH TO THREE PARTNERS

ABC Intervention
American School for the Deaf
Creative Interventions
Easter Seals Rehabilitation Center of Greater Waterbury
Jane Bisantz & Associates, LLC
LEARN: Partners for Birth to Three
Reachout, Inc.
Rehabilitation Associates of CT, Inc.
Sarah, Inc. - Kidsteps

LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY PARTNERS

Clinton Public Schools
Middletown Public Schools
Portland Public Schools
Westbrook Public Schools